

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re PATENT APPLICATION of
ULRICH et al.

Group Art Unit: 1631

Examiner: Allen, M.

Serial No.: 08/882,431

Filed: June 25, 1997

FOR: BACTERIAL SUPERANTIGEN VACCINES

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April 10, 2002

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Hon. Commissioner of Patents
and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Responsive to the Office Action dated January 10, 2002 in connection with the above-referenced application, please enter the following amendments and consider the following remarks.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 1, 4-6, 12-14 and 21-23 as follows.

G1 SUB I
1. (Four times amended) An isolated and purified superantigen toxin DNA fragment encoding Staphylococcal enterotoxin B (SEB) in which at least two amino acids selected from the group of amino acid positions of SEB consisting of 18-28, 40-50, 55-65, 62-72, 84-94, 86-96, 89-99, 110-120 and 205-215 have been altered such that binding of said encoded SEB to the MHC class II receptor and T cell antigen receptor is altered.

G2
4. (Twice amended) An isolated and purified superantigen toxin DNA fragment encoding Staphylococcal enterotoxin B (SEB), wherein said superantigen toxin is Staphylococcal enterotoxin B having the sequence of SEQ ID NO:5.

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